



## **FORT GEORGE G. MEADE NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Two Fort Meade employees land donation for local elementary school**

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MD., -- Two Fort Meade employees are proof that hard work and volunteerism can make a difference in the community.

Kathy and Tim McPherson are literacy tutors at Harman Elementary and their interest in helping the students led the Rotary International Foundation-District 7620 and Rotary Club of Glen Burnie to donate \$1,750 to the school, located off-post in Hanover, Md.

Kathy McPherson was able to secure the donation after attending a Rotary Club grant workshop in February. "We're very pleased that we're able to do this," she said at the check presentation on March 8 at the elementary school.

The donation is expected to go towards the purchase of Safari Montage, a computer server that houses more than 1,000 education videos that can be used to supplement the school's curriculum.

The McPhersons currently volunteer two days a month with the goal of teaching students how to read. Kathy McPherson had spent five years working as a reading tutor in Texas before moving to Fort Meade with her husband in 2005. After doing research on illiteracy, McPherson said she and her husband became committed to the cause.

**(more)**

Kathy McPherson said she saw the progress made by her students and how the instruction helped them become better readers and learned proper social skills after receiving consistent and caring instruction. “I gave them expectations and firm, but loving, direction,” she said. After speaking with the Fort Meade school liaison officer, the McPherson’s were matched up with Harman Elementary School.

“I expect to feel as good about this experience as Kathy does,” said Tim McPherson. He said whatever steps the children take toward improving their reading skills make his efforts worthwhile.

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**EDITOR’S NOTE: For more information please contact Jennifer Downing, Media Relations Officer, at (301) 677-1486 or Summer Barkley, Media Relations Director, at (301) 677-1436.**